To the Supreme Authoritie, the COMMONS OF

ENGLAND,

Assembled in Parliament.

The humble Petition of many Thousands of poor Prisoners, for Debt, and Surety-ship, in England and Wales

Sheweth,

THat your Petitioners having remained some twenty, some forty years, in a most miserable slavery, (contrary to the Law of God, Nature, and Nations, and to the fundamental Laws of this Land,) wanting all that might make our lives comfortable, bereaved of Wives and families, fed with the scraps of the Basket, our lodging many times the cold earth, wrapt in r ggs, or straw, under the hellish Tyranny of Goalers, and Officers; by whom your Petitioners are manakled in Irons, robbed, wounded, poysoned, and starved. Oh did but your Honors eys see, or ears hear, the cruel oppression of Goalers, and the miserable cryes and groans forced from your Petitioners, were they beasts, and your Honours hearts adamant, pitty could not be denyed; the slavery of Turkey not comparable to it. But your Petitioners are Men, born free, Christians, for whom Christ dyed: yet suffering by brethren of the same Faith, and Nation; by whom your Petitioners are buried alive, in perpetual imprisonment. But this Honourable House having mentioned ENGLANDS LIBERTY, occasions your Petitioners to beg a share in that Liberty. Forget not then (we beseech you) the poor Prisoners, but destroy every yoak, and let the oppressed go free: Can any thing honour this Honourable House more? or will any be more obliged to serve the State?

May it therefore please this Honourable House (and we hope no good Member will oppose it) speedily to relieve your Petitioners undone condition, and release them; call Goalers to [illegible] for misdemeanours, give Reparations as the case requires.

And your Petitioners [illegible] ready with their lives to assist and serve the State, [illegible] Honourable House; And shall dayly pray, &c.